IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4-7, 14, 16 and 18-21. Please cancel claims 15 and 17. All pending claims are reproduced below.

1. (Original) A method of merging first and second computer files wherein the first and second computer files are modified versions of a common computer file, the method comprising the steps of:

producing a first set of stacked diffs between the first computer file and the common computer file;

producing a second set of stacked diffs between the second computer file and the common computer file; and

simultaneously displaying the first and second sets of stacked diffs, wherein common lines of the first and second sets of stacked diffs are aligned and new lines of each of the first and second sets of stacked diffs are aligned with blank lines of the other stacked diff.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second sets of stacked diffs can be scrolled together.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein conflicts between the first and second computer files are displayed and only one conflict is active at a time.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

displaying version control system metadata relating to the active conflict.

5. (Currently Amended) The method in claim 4, wherein version control system metadata comprises ~~may insert~~ a revision number, date, checkin comments, and/or user identification pertaining to the version in which data was created.

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6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein version control system metadata comprises ~~may insert~~ a revision number, date, checkin comments, and/or user identification pertaining to the version in which data was deleted.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of displaying version control system metadata relating to the active conflict comprises the steps of:

searching an active conflict of the first and second sets of stacked diffs;

creating a list of revisions for lines deleted from the active portion;

creating a list of revisions for lines added from the active portion; and

displaying the version control system metadata relating to the deleted lines and/or the

added lines.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of displaying creation information or deletion information for deleted lines.

9. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:

alternatively displaying or not displaying deleted lines in the active conflict in the first

and second set of stacked diffs.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

selecting one line or block of lines from either of the first and second sets of stacked

diffs;

copying the selected lines to a conflict resolution pane; and

repeating the selecting and copying steps to achieve a conflict resolution.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

undoing the selection and copying steps.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of:

moving to a successive or previous conflict.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

alternatively displaying or not displaying deleted lines in the first and second sets of

stacked diffs.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the ~~steps~~ step of:

alternatively displaying or not displaying annotations with the first and second sets of

stacked diffs.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The <u>computer readable medium</u> ~~apparatus~~ of claim [[15]] <u>20</u>,

wherein ~~the means for~~ simultaneously displaying the first and second sets of stacked diffs

<u>comprises displaying</u> ~~displays~~ version control metadata relating to <u>an active conflict</u> ~~the active change~~.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim [[15]] <u>20</u>,

further comprising:

~~means~~ <u>computer program code</u> for displaying annotations in the first and second sets of

stacked diffs.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ <u>computer readable medium</u> of claim [[15]] <u>20</u>,

further comprising:

~~means~~ <u>computer program code</u> for alternatively displaying or not displaying deleted lines

in the first and second sets of stacked diffs.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including a computer program for merging first and second computer files wherein the first and second computer files are modified versions of a common computer file, the computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code ~~readable means~~ for producing a first set of stacked diffs between the first computer file and the common computer file and for producing a second set of stacked diffs between the second computer file and the common computer file; and

computer program code ~~readable means~~ for simultaneously displaying the first and second sets of stacked diffs, wherein common lines of the first and second sets of stacked diffs are aligned and new lines of each of the first and second sets of stacked diffs are aligned with blank lines of the other stacked diff.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:

computer program code ~~readable means~~ for selecting one or more lines or one or more ~~blocks of~~ lines from each of the first and second sets of stacked diffs and for copying the selected lines to a conflict resolution pane.